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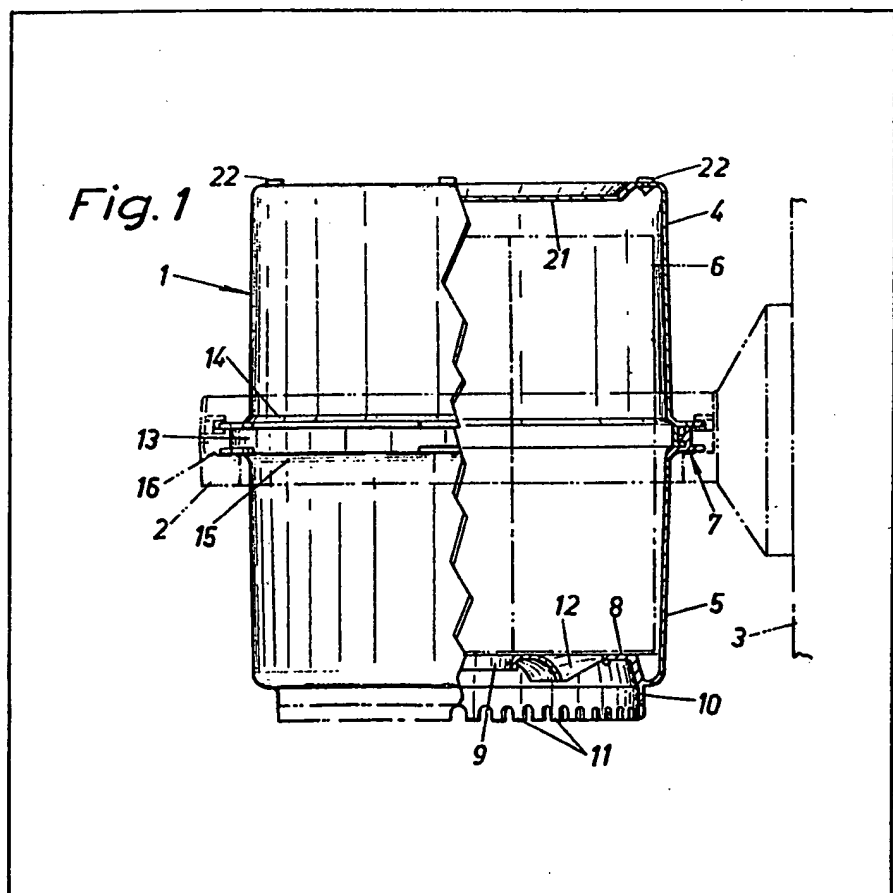
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(54) A dispenser for paper rolls

(57) An improved dispenser from which desired lengths of paper may be withdrawn from a paper roll enclosed therein consists of a housing (1) into which the paper roll (6) may be inserted in an upright, up-ended position, supported on a circular bottom (8), the latter provided with a central aperture (9) through which the paper may be withdrawn, and with a toothed tear-off edge (10) against

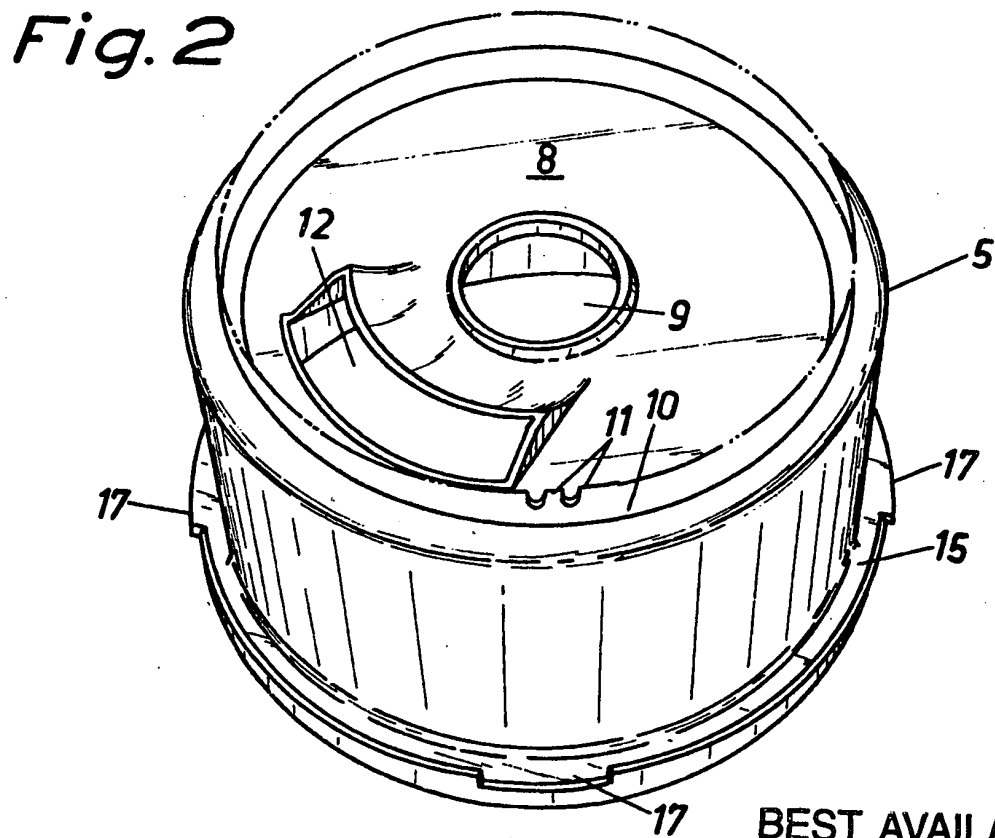
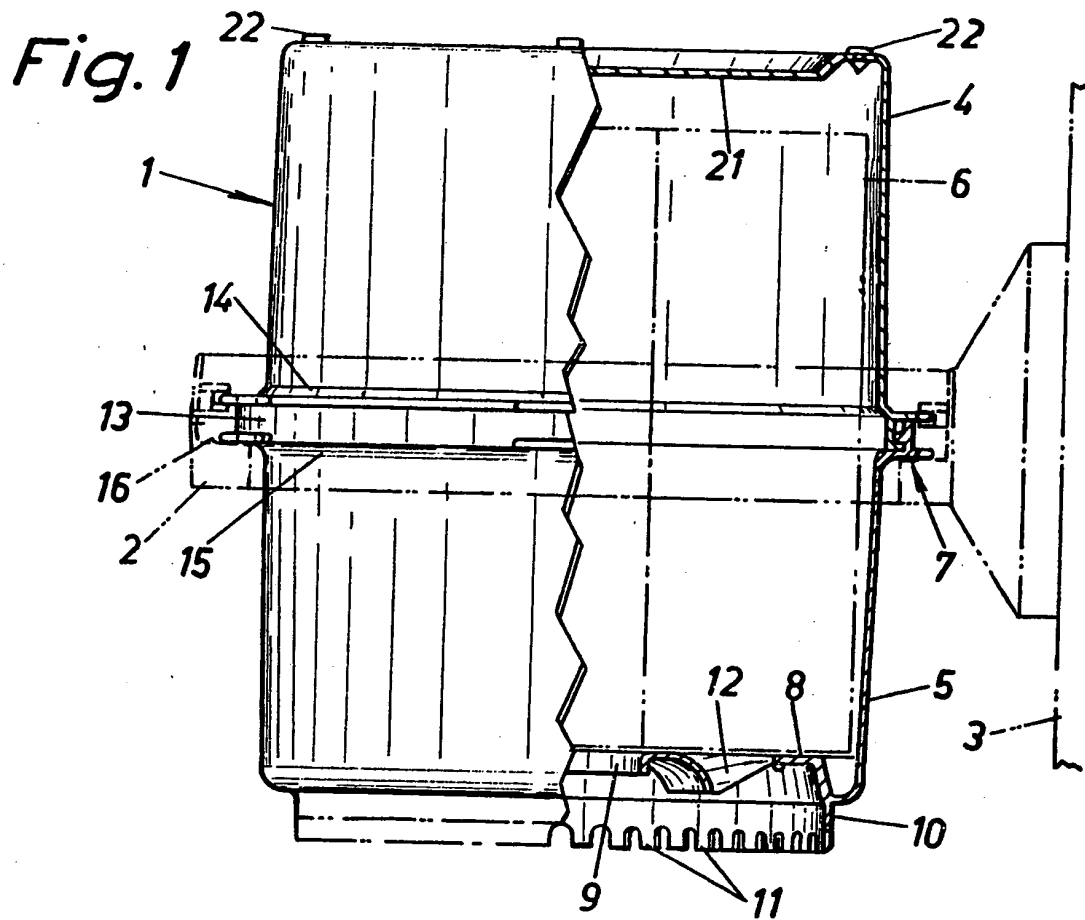
which the paper may be torn off.

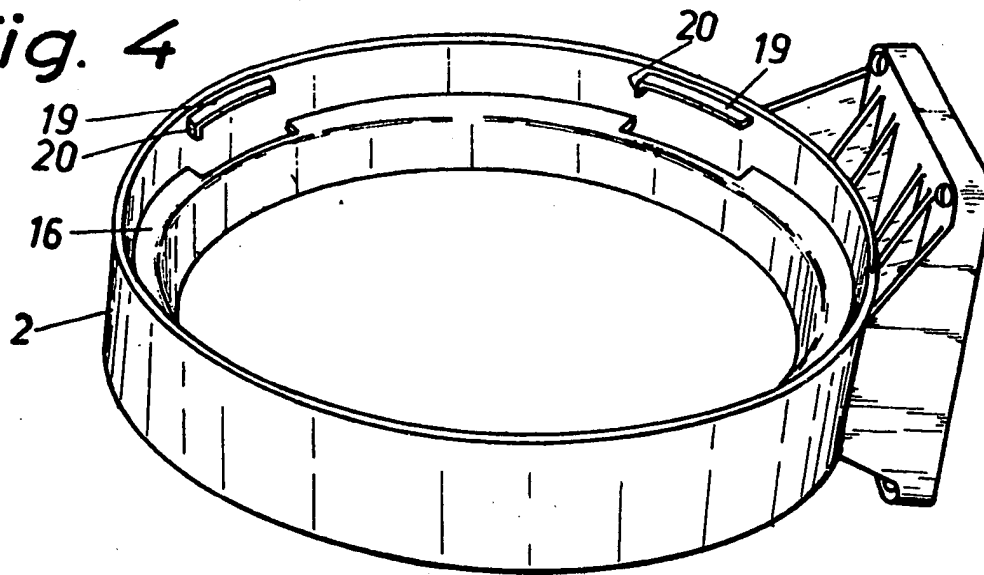
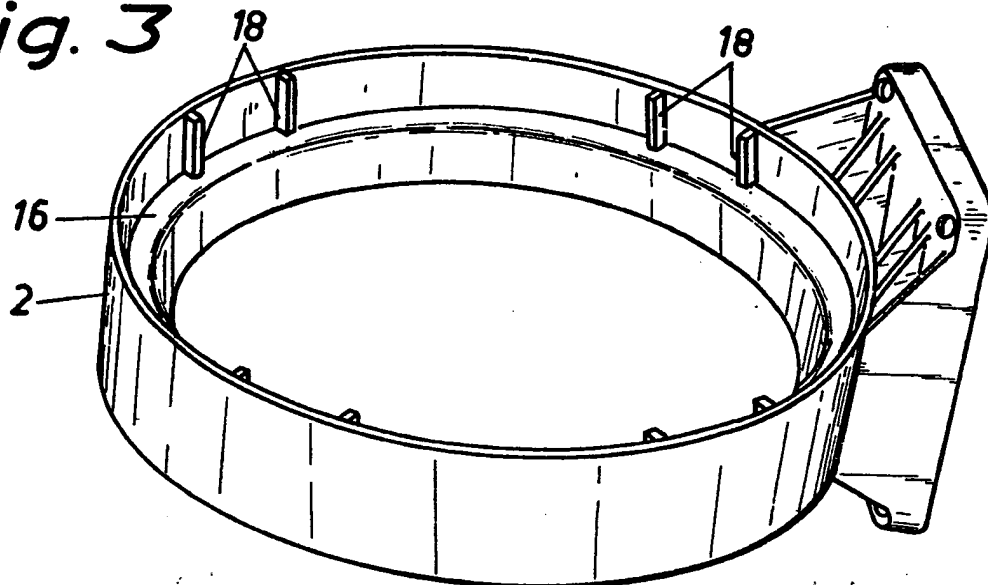
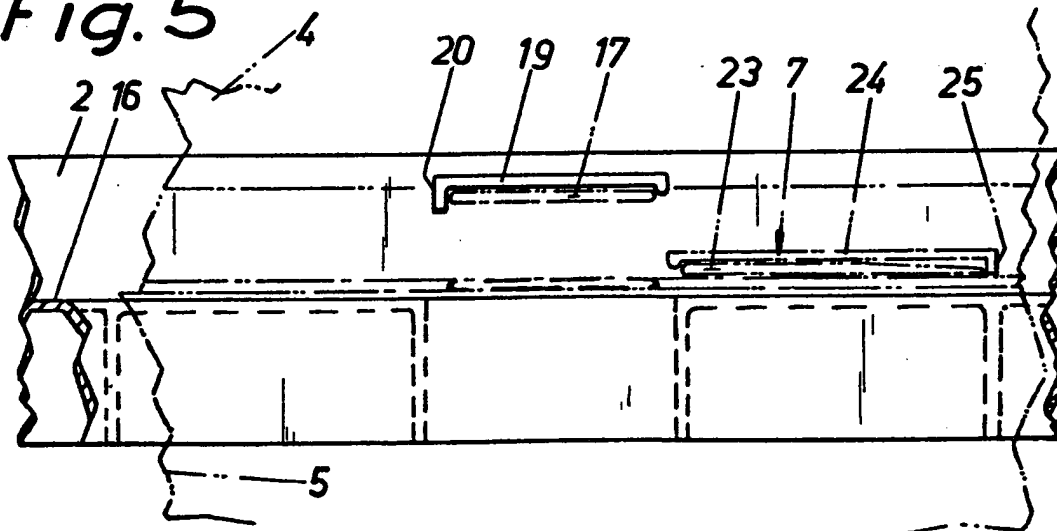
In accordance with the invention the tear-off edge (10) is arranged on the housing bottom (8), extending peripherally along the latter, and in that the housing (1) is arranged to be lowered into a holder member (2) to be removably retained therein in various rotational positions. As a result, the entire tear-off edge (10) becomes useable and the localized wear of the tear-off edge of prior-art dispensers is eliminated.



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*Fig. 4**Fig. 3**Fig. 5*

## SPECIFICATION

## A dispenser for paper rolls

The subject invention relates to an improved dispenser which is designed to make it possible to withdraw the desired length of paper from a paper roll disposed inside the dispenser. The dispenser consists of a housing holding the paper roll in an upright up-ended position while supporting it on the circular bottom of the container. The circular holding bottom is provided with a central opening allowing the paper to be pulled out, and with an edge having tear-off teeth thereon against which the paper may be torn off.

A number of prior-art modified devices of this kind designed to dispense paper webs have in common the disadvantage that the tear-off edge is exposed to considerable wear. The paper quality of the paper rolls used in this kind of dispenser devices is often low, as it is made from cellulose waste comprising impurities, such as granulate fillers.

Tear-off edges made from plastics have a very short serviceable life because of their poor wear-resistance. To prolong the serviceable life attempts have been made to apply a layer of chromium on the teeth of the tear-off edge. However, not even chrome-plated tear-off edges of plastics have proved to possess sufficient wear-resistance and today the tear-off edges are made from a homogeneous metal material.

The most common position of dispensers of the kind referred to is on a wall at close vicinity to a wash-basin. The dispenser, when mounted on a wall, will be very close to the wall surface and one consequence is that only a small section of the entire tear-off edge — which edge usually extends over a full circle with the tear-off edge facing downwards away from the bottom of the housing — i.e. only the section facing the user, can be practically and conveniently used. Since only very few of the teeth of the tear-off edge are ever used, they will be exposed to considerable wear and quickly become blunt, also when they are of metal. Metallic tear-off members are expensive and in addition the sharp and projecting teeth constitute a potential danger to the user, who runs the risk of cutting himself on the teeth.

The dispenser in accordance with the subject invention is designed to enable the entire tear-off edge to be fully used, disregarding the mounting position of the housing. Consequently, plastics material may be used for the tear-off edge, with the added advantage of increasing the usefulness and serviceable life of the paper-roll dispenser.

The invention is characterised in that the tear-off edge is provided on the housing bottom, extending peripherally around the perimeter thereof, and in that the housing is arranged to be lowered into a holder member to be removably retained therein in various rotational positions. As a consequence, the wear on the tear-off teeth will be evenly distributed over the entire tear-off edge.

The invention will be described in closer detail in the following with reference to one embodiment

of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Fig. 1 shows, partly in section, the dispenser in accordance with the invention, mounted on a wall,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view from below of the housing sections of the dispenser,

Figs. 3 and 4 are perspective views of two embodiments of the housing holder member, and

Fig. 5 is a lateral view of a portion of the inner face of the housing holder member.

The dispenser illustrated in Fig. 1 consists of a housing 1 made entirely from a plastics material, and a holder member 2 which is mounted on a wall 3. The housing 1 comprises two sections 4 and 5 designed to enclose a paper roll 6. The housing sections 4, 5 are removably interconnected by means of connecting means 7, one of which is shown in the drawings. The lower housing section 5 is formed with a bottom 8 in the centre of which is provided an opening 9 through which paper may be withdrawn from the roll 6. A tear-off edge 9 with teeth 11 thereon extends peripherally along the housing bottom wall 8. The housing bottom 8 is also provided with a slot 12 through which the four fingers of the hand may be inserted to allow convenient and easy handling of the housing 1.

The connecting means 7 of the housing sections 4, 5 are positioned in a collar 13 extending along the edges of the joint between the housing sections. The collar 13 forms radially projecting beads 14, 15, and when the housing is lowered into the holder member 2, these beads rest on a carrier flange 16 formed inside the holder member 2, thus removably retaining the housing therein. The beads 13, 14 are provided with guide ears 17, the configuration of which appears most clearly from Fig. 2. The guide ears 17 being spaced equal distances apart along the beads, are designed for insertion into guide tracks 18 formed on the inner face of the holder member 2.

In accordance with a modified embodiment of the holder member 2 illustrated in Fig. 4, the guide tracks are replaced by retaining or gripping shoulders 19 formed on the inner face of the holder member. The guide ears 17 are arranged for insertion beneath said gripping shoulders so as to be retained in position, abutting against a stop face 20 provided at the end of each gripping shoulder.

Owing to this arrangement the housing 1 may be lifted off the holder member 2, be turned over a part of a turn, the length of which corresponds to the distance between the guide ears 17, and be again lowered and positioned so as to ensure engagement between the guide ears 17 and the shoulders 19, whereby the housing is locked against turning movement. A different segment of the tear-off edge 10 will now be facing the user, and by shifting the position of the housing as indicated from time to time it thus becomes possible to make use of the tear-off edge 10 over the full circle thereof.

The upper housing section 4 in Fig. 1 has an essentially flat top 21 which is provided with three

supports 22 of rubber or of some equivalent suitable soft material possessing a high coefficient of friction. Because the container sections are interconnected by the connecting means 7 and since the container section 5 is provided with a carrier handle, i.e. one edge of the slot 12, it is possible to remove the housing 1 from its holder member 2 and carry it to a working area or other place where paper towels are required. In this place the housing may be positioned while resting on its supports 22 on for instance the top of a working table, with the housing section 5 provided with the opening 9 turned upwards. In this position of use, the housing remains firmly standing on its supports 22 while paper is withdrawn from the dispenser and torn off against the teeth. It is also possible to make an aperture in the top of the working table for reception therein of the housing 2, in which case the latter may be used in a recessed position in the table.

It is also possible to use the housing 1, supported by its holder member 2 and with the housing section 5 directed upwards, should it be impossible to mount the holder member 2 high enough, i.e. at its normal convenient level of use.

The means 7 for removable interconnection of the two housing sections 4 and 5 are designed in the manner appearing from Fig. 5 according to which flanges 23 formed on the upper housing section 4 catch beneath retaining faces 24 arranged on the other housing section 5, said retaining faces 24 formed with stop members 25. Preferably, at least three interconnecting means 7 are provided. The number of guide ears 17 on the beads 14, 15 need not exceed one for each housing section. The number of guide tracks 18 or gripping shoulders 19 and the distance between them, i.e. the pitch, determine the positions of the housing 1 inside the holder member 2.

The device in accordance with the invention is not limited to the embodiments as described in the foregoing but several modifications are possible within the scope of the appended claims. The dimensions of the housing 1, the discharge opening 9 and the tear-off edge 10 could be different, depending on the type of paper roll that the housing is designed to support. Also the connecting means could have a shape differing from the one illustrated and described.

## 50 CLAIMS

1. A dispenser from which may be withdrawn desired lengths of paper and comprising a housing into which a paper roll may be inserted, positioned in an upright, up-ended position on a circular bottom which is provided with a central opening through which the paper may be withdrawn, and with a serrated edge against which the paper may be torn off, characterised in that the tear-off edge

60 is arranged on and extends peripherally along the bottom of the housing and in that the housing is arranged to be lowered into a holder member and be removably retained in the latter in various rotational positions.

2. A dispenser as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the height of the tear-off edge is considerably smaller than the radius of said edge and that said tear-off edge projects axially from the bottom of the housing.

3. A dispenser as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the housing consists of two housing sections which are removably interconnected by means of connecting means, the bottom of one of said housing sections formed with said tear-off edge, whereas the other housing section is provided with an essentially flat top plate.

4. A dispenser as claimed in claim 3, characterised in that the connecting means are positioned in a collar extending along the edges of the joint between said housing sections, said collar forming radially projecting beads which are arranged, upon lowering of any one of the ends of said housing into said holder member, to rest on a carrier flange inside said holder member.

5. A dispenser as claimed in claim 4, characterised in that each bead is provided with one or several guide ears arranged by their engagement with two or several guide tracks inside said holder to prevent turning movement of said housing, when the latter rests on the holder.

6. A dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the essentially flat top plate is provided with at least three supports made from a preferably soft material possessing a high coefficient of friction, said supports enabling positioning and use of said housing on e.g. a table top.

7. A dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the bottom plate having the tear-off edge thereon is provided with a recess, a loop or the like allowing the housing to be gripped by a hand to handle said housing.

8. A dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the connecting means consist of at least three flanges which are arranged to catch beneath gripping faces formed in the opposite housing section in identical numbers and with equal pitch, stop members being provided on said faces.

9. A dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the guide ears are arranged to catch beneath gripping faces formed on the holder, stop members being provided on said gripping faces.

10. A dispenser substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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